

TUMBLING WING

1



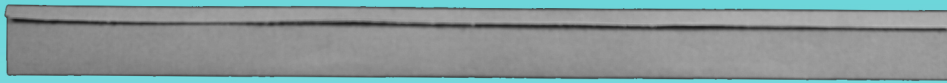
Start with a 2-inch-wide strip of lightweight paper. Tracing paper or phone directory paper works well. Fold the strip in half.

2



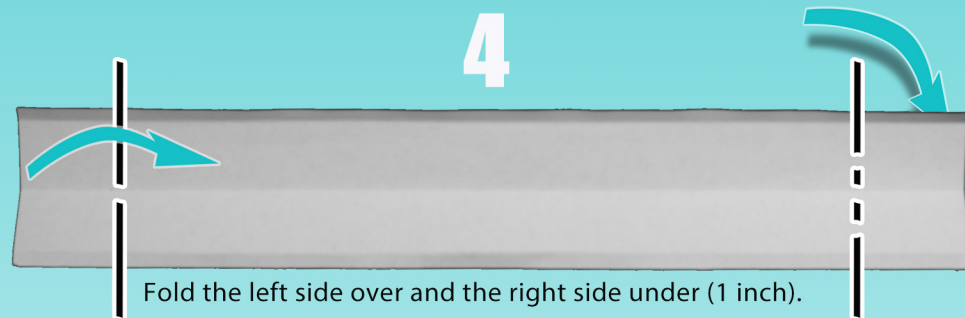
Fold both edges down, about 2-3 mm.

3



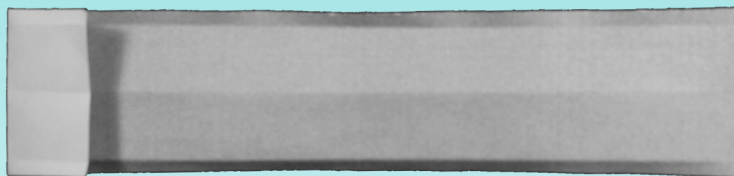
Unfold and flatten the strip of paper.

4

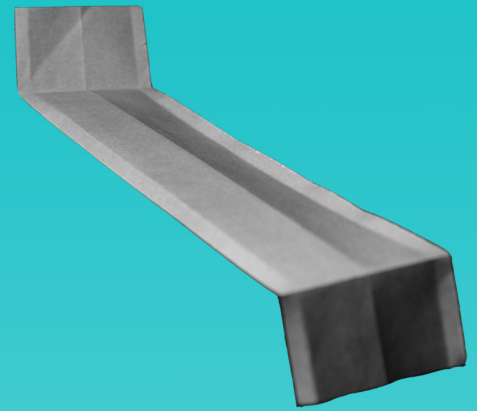


Fold the left side over and the right side under (1 inch).

5



Unfold so that the ends are at right angles to the center.



A plane that seems to float on air and tumbles forever, or at least until your arms get tired.

FLIGHT TIP:

First, get it tumbling in a straight line. Add a little more bend to the edge where it meets the right angle, to slow down the faster moving end. If the plane is turning to the left, the faster moving end is the right side.

Air Flow

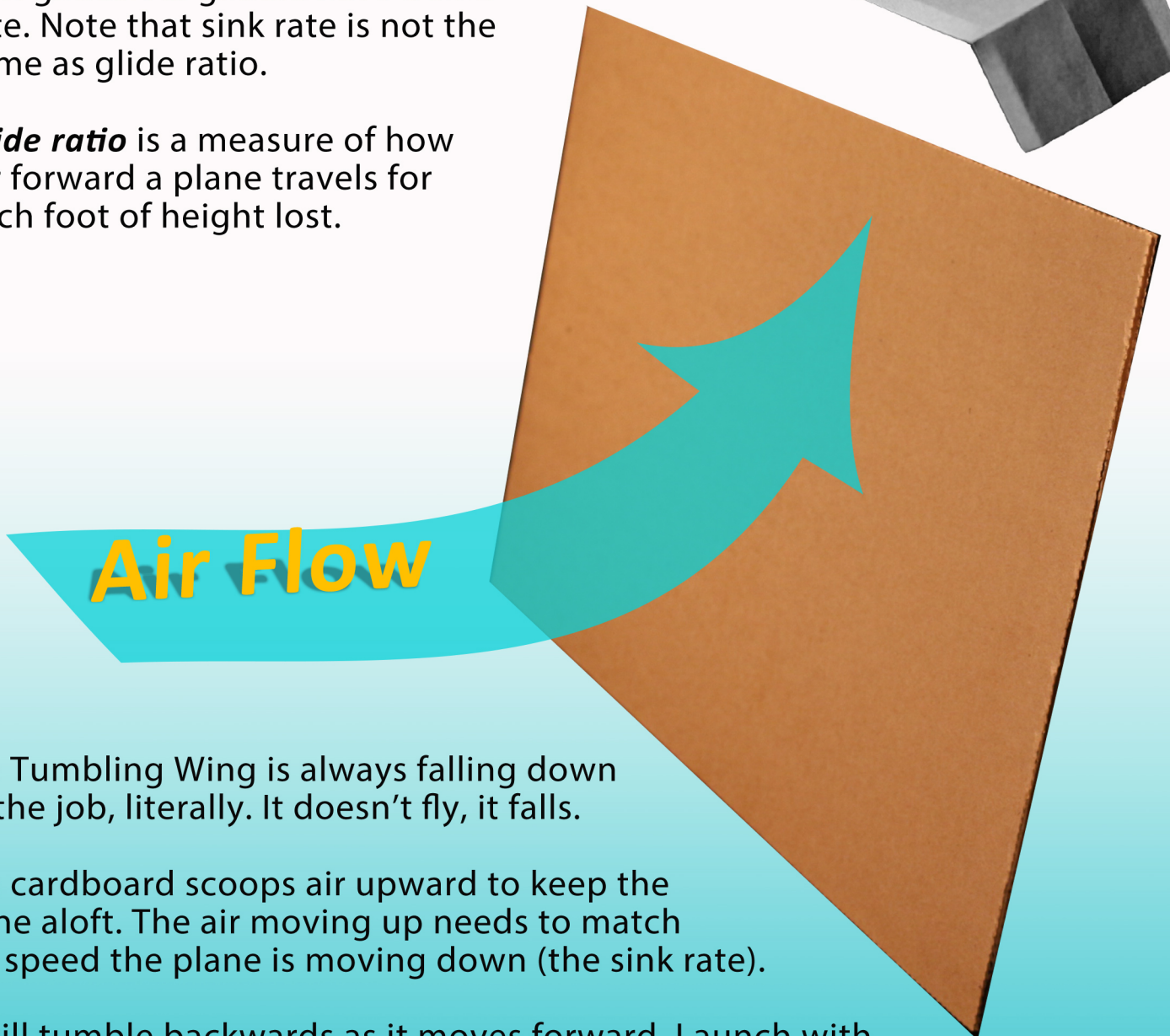
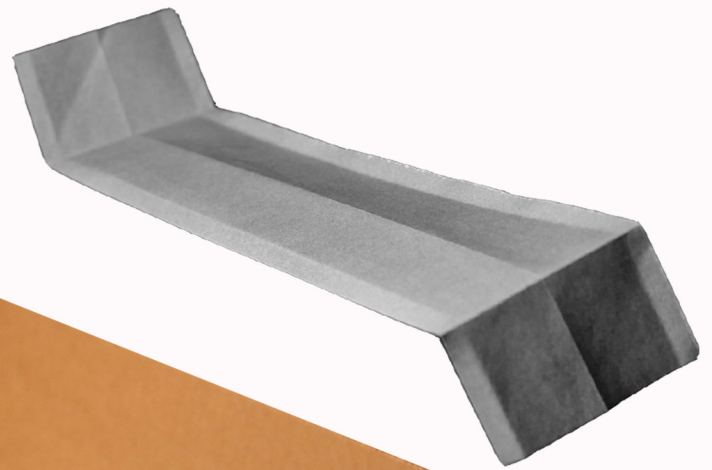
Hold a piece of cardboard just under and behind the plane and follow as the plane tumbles.



SINK RATE

Sink rate is literally the rate the plane is sinking; moving downward as it glides. All gliders have a sink rate. Note that sink rate is not the same as glide ratio.

Glide ratio is a measure of how far forward a plane travels for each foot of height lost.



The Tumbling Wing is always falling down on the job, literally. It doesn't fly, it falls.

The cardboard scoops air upward to keep the plane aloft. The air moving up needs to match the speed the plane is moving down (the sink rate).

It will tumble backwards as it moves forward. Launch with edge nearest you angled upward, like the picture above. A slight downward motion as you release the plane is all it needs to start tumbling.

Keep the cardboard nearly vertical, only leaned just a little toward you at the top. You'll need to practice. I've flown one for more than 30 minutes.